

# County of Hamilton

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38th District #2 Integrating Committee Meeting Minutes

February 21, 1992 - 8:00 a.m.

Board of County Commissioners' Staff Meeting Room

Room 603, County Administration Building

Cincinnati, OH 45202

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Schramm at 8:08 a.m.. Mr. Ray Hodges was alternate for Mayor Ragase and Mr. Young for Mr. Castellini. Mr. Crafts absent.

Support Staff present: Messrs. Cline, Pickering, Sigward, Bass, Brayshaw and Cottrill.

Chairman Schramm welcomed the City of Cincinnati Mayor Dwight Tillery as the newest member of the Committee.

Mr. Rowe moved approval of the January 17, 1992 minutes; seconded by Mrs. Berger and passed unanimously.

Chairman Schramm announced his resignation as Hamilton County Engineer as of March 31, 1992. Stated he will recommend to the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners they appoint Mr. William Brayshaw, who is taking over the duties of Engineer for Hamilton County, as his successor on the District #2 Integrating Committee. This will necessitate the Committee electing a new Chairperson at their March 1992 meeting.

Support Staff report:

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS - Mr. Cottrill presented a request for additional funds for Lincoln Heights to replace an existing water main in Chester Road as an addition to their previously-approved project. It appears that Lincoln Heights was bound to an old (at least 20 years) agreement with the Cincinnati Water Works that required the Chester Road water main to be replaced in the event that the pavement was to be reconstructed. Lincoln Heights was unaware of the obligation when plans for the street project were prepared. Consequently, no water main was included in the plans, nor was its \$99,253 cost included in their original application for Issue #2/LTIP funding. Given Lincoln Heights' poor economic health, it is not surprising that they did not have the funds available to pay the entire additional cost of the water main.

When the Support Staff suggested to Lincoln Heights that they apply for the needed money in the next funding cycle, we were told that the OPWC was threatening to cancel the Project Agreement unless work on the project was initiated by March 1, 1992. Waiting for funding from the next round would come too late to save the project. Therefore, the Support Staff is recommending that the Integrating Committee make an exception to its long-standing policy about not awarding additional funds to approved projects, and award the City of Lincoln Heights \$89,328 from the existing LTIP balance, for the following reasons:

- 1.) From an engineering standpoint, any replacement of underground utilities should be performed before the street's pavement is replaced, not afterward. Pavement restorations ex post facto tend to be weaker than the rest of the pavement, resulting in earlier failures.
- 2.) It is not possible to award the additional funding from the next funding round because the OPWC will cancel the Project Agreement if the project is not initiated by March 1, 1992.
- 3.) Lincoln Heights has the worst economic health of any jurisdiction with Hamilton County. We feel that there is a genuine lack of local funds available for the additional work.

Based on the reasons stated by the Support Staff, Mr. Barfels moved that the Committee award \$89,328 in unexpended LTIP funds to the City of Lincoln Heights to cover the additional cost of a water main for the previously-approved Chester Road project. However, he wanted it clearly stated in the minutes how the decision was derived, so as to not establish precedent for approving future additional funding requests from other jurisdictions. Mr. Rowe seconded the motion. There were 6 affirmative votes cast for the motion. The secretary will contact the three absent Committee members to receive their vote on the matter, since seven affirmative votes are necessary for any question regarding the allocation of funds.

Mrs. Berger asked the Support Staff to closely monitor applications for any possible utility conflicts, and to put the jurisdictions on notice that utility coordination is THEIR responsibility. The Committee does not want to award additional funds in the future just because a jurisdiction was negligent in their project preparation.

ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS - Mr. Cottrill recommended that any action on the Administrative Costs Program reimbursement be postponed until seven Committee members are in attendance at the meeting. This matter does not have to be acted upon until the fiscal year 1993 allocations are decided.

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Mr. Cottrill reported on the present status of funds for District #2. Through gross accounting errors by OPWC, we now find ourselves with a \$400,000 DEFICIT in the District's Issue #2 fund balance. The deficit has accumulated because OPWC had informed us periodically that we had a positive balance in our account and that those funds should be awarded for projects; such notification was always verbal. Rather than requiring us to cancel \$400,000 in Project Agreements already issued, OPWC has now decided that the deficit may be alleviated by reducing our fiscal year 1993 (Round #5) allocation by \$400,000. Mr. Cottrill recommended that we also hold back \$90,000 in the next round for \$40,000 in administrative cost reimbursement (if approved by the Committee) and \$50,000 for project overruns. The consensus of the Committee was that we should hold back the \$90,000 for the reasons stated. The Support Staff also stated that they would no longer recommend approving additional projects without a written authorization by OPWC.

LTIP TOWNSHIP MINIMUM REQUIREMENT - Mr. Bass reminded the Committee of the LTIP requirement that a specified minimum amount of LTIP funds must be awarded to township projects within the first five years. For District #2 that amount is approximately \$1.6 million. Since we have not yet allocated any LTIP funding to a township project through the first three years of the program, the Support Staff is recommending that a minimum of half of the requirement (\$800,000) be satisfied in the next round even if the Committee has to dip below the cut line to do it. The Support Staff is to find out if County roads within a township can be improved by the township using exclusively township LTIP funds. Since County roads generally get more traffic than do township roads, they would tend to rank higher in the ratings and become a more legitimate contender for funds, as opposed to a residential street being funded simply because it is a township project.

DELINQUENT PROJECTS - OPWC advised that District #2 has 23 projects that are delinquent, however only three of those are actually not completed; the other 20 merely need to have completion reports filed with OPWC.

CREDIT ENHANCEMENTS - Mr. Cline reported that the City of Cincinnati has not yet received a written reply from OPWC about what steps are necessary to receive the credit enhancement funds previously awarded. The City is starting to question whether the amount committed funding is worth the cost of the staff time spent trying to actually receive the cash. It is the City's understanding that the County Engineers' Association is attempting to have the Issue #2 law changed whereby the District Integrating Committee would be empowered to loan the credit enhancement money if no jurisdiction in the District was interested in credit enhancement funding. The Support Staff sees this as a good idea.

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RATING SYSTEM REVISIONS - Mr. Cline presented the proposed changes in the rating system as requested by the Support Staff. On most of the items, no points were changed from the 1992 version. The single exception was on Item #8 which reduced the points awarded for loan-financed projects from 10 to 5. This change was made to remove the unfair advantage that jurisdictions who could accept loans had over jurisdictions who could not accept loans. In addition, some revisions were made with the verbiage which more fully described some of the rating factors. The Committee accepted the proposed changes and passed along a few suggestions on wording of the rating descriptions and linking this current edition of the rating system to a certain "Round" as opposed to a particular year. Mr. Cline said that he would try to incorporate as many of the suggestions into the format of the rating system. An adoption date will also be included.

A motion for approval of the rating system as modified by the Support Staff was made by Mrs. Berger and seconded by Mr. Barfels. Motion was passed unanimously, including Mr. Young & Mr. Hodges who were permitted to vote on policy issues while acting as alternates for Committee Members.

Small Governments Sub-Committee report - none.

Old Business - none.

New Business - none.

Next meeting date is March 20, 1992. (Mr. Barfels & Mr. Rowe stated they would not be able to attend the March meeting.)

Mr. Sykes made a motion for adjournment; seconded by Mr. Rowe and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 9:35 a.m..

Respectfully submitted,



Joan Cornelius  
Recording Secretary

cc: Support Staff

38th District #2 Integrating Committee Meeting  
Board of County Commissioners' Staff Meeting Room  
Room 603, County Administration Building  
Cincinnati, OH 45202

February 21, 1992 - 8:00 a.m.

(All regular meetings the 3rd Friday of month)

AGENDA

- 1.) Welcome City of Cincinnati Mayor Dwight Tillery as the newest member of the Committee.
- 2.) Approval of previous meeting's minutes.
- 3.) Chairman's report.
- 4.) Support Staff Items:
  - A.) Application from Lincoln Heights.
  - B.) Minimum balance for District #2.
  - C.) LTIP requirement for township projects.
  - D.) District administrative costs program.
  - E.) Delinquent projects.
  - F.) Credit enhancements.
  - G.) Rating system for Round #5.
- 5.) Small Governments Sub-Committee report
- 6.) Old Business
- 7.) New Business
- 8.) Next meeting date - March 20, 1992
- 9.) Adjournment

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Board of County Commissioners Staff Meeting Room  
603 County Administration Building  
Cincinnati, OH 45202

February 21, 1992 - 8:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE LIST

NAME

AFFILIATION

PHONE NO.

Joe Sykes

Twp & Assoc.

941 3393

George Rine

City of Cincinnati

352-5291

Dwight Talley

City of Cinti.

352-3250

David C. Schaefer

Ham. Co. Engr.

632-8630

Wilma Berger

Symmes Twp

891-7836

Wayne Barfch

City of Loveland

683-0150

Joe W. Fodge

City of Forest Park

595-5200

William W. Branshan

Ham. Co. Engineer

632-8691